

Meeting: 2nd SSN / LRIT Group Meeting

Place and date: Lisbon, 18 October 2017

Agenda item: Central Location Database – progress report

Document number: SSN/LRIT 2.4.5

Submitted by EMSA

Summary	This document presents the current status and future developments in relation to the Central Location Database.
Action to be taken	As per paragraph 6.
Related documents	n.a.

1 Background

Most of the EMSA maritime applications (e.g. SafeSeaNet, EO Data Centre, Thetis, LRIT and IMS services) use the LOCODEs stored in a common Central Location Database (CLD). This database is intended for use as a reference by the EMSA maritime applications as well as Member States' national systems (SSN and NSW). To handle this common data base, EMSA developed the Common Management Console (CMC), which facilitates the development of integrated services and offers better control.

2 Current Status

The CLD was released in July 2017, together with version 3.4 of SSN. The CLD information is made available to external systems, which use it for cross-checking with similar data stored within their databases, and it offers the following services:

- Access via the EMSA Maritime Application portal: Implemented as a single entry point for all EMSA maritime applications.
- Request/response mechanism: To request the content of location records in the CLD based on different criteria (e.g. country of the location, name of the location). The request/ response mechanism can be also used to retrieve a journal of changes in individual location records in the CLD over time (i.e. Location record "logs").
- Location data announcement ("push"): This service is used by the CLD to announce (to external systems previously subscribed to the service) the creation of a new location record or changes to data stored in the CLD for a location.

Figure 1 shows the types of access to the CLD.

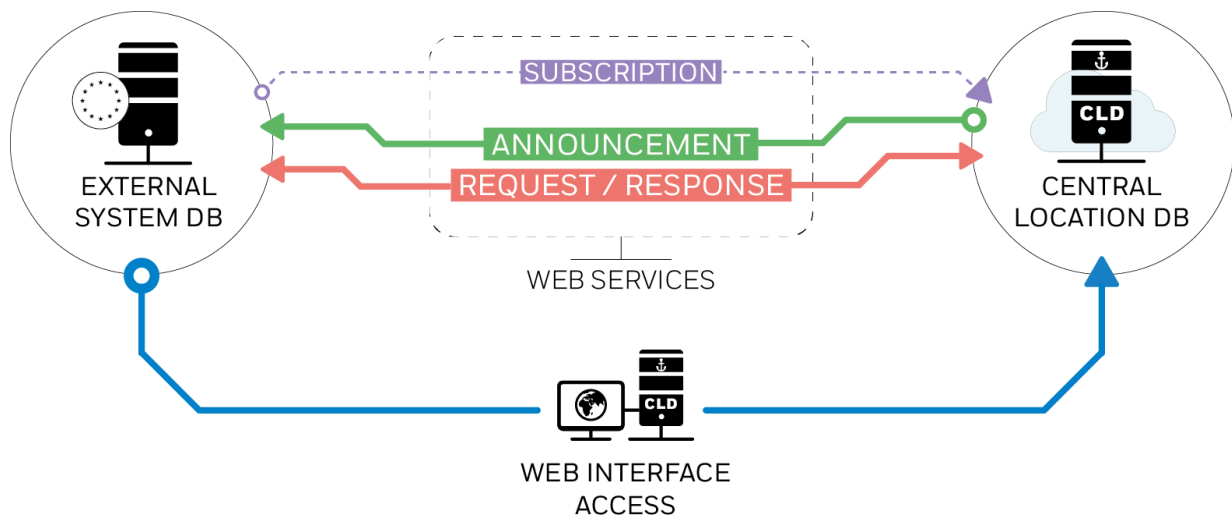


Figure 1: Access offered by the CLD

Member States willing to connect to the CLD using web services are invited to contact the EMSA Maritime Support Services (MaritimeSupportServices@emsa.europa.eu) in order to obtain the necessary details.

3 CLD content and data elements

The CLD includes all LOCODEs (see: <http://www.unece.org/cefact/locode/service/location.html>) in the UN/LOCODE list, plus SSN specific locations, as well as port facilities information stemming from the IMO Maritime Security module in GISIS. Each LOCODE contains the following details:

I. Location identification

- Location code - Unique identifier of the location (mandatory)
- Location name with diacritics (optional)
- Location name without diacritics (mandatory)
- Comments (optional)
- Country (mandatory)
- Type – UNECE or SSN Specific (mandatory)
- Function [in line with UNECE (1 is Port, 2 is Rail Terminal, etc.)] (optional)
- Status - Active/Inactive (mandatory)

II. Location position (optional)

- Latitude/Longitude

III. Location attributes (optional)

- Other location names
- Subsidiary location
- Is a location in a Sulphur Emission Control Area (SECA)?

IV. Port facilities (Optional)

- Port facility name
- Port facility description
- Port facility LOCODE
- Port facility GISIS code
- Port facility coordinates (Latitude/Longitude)

V. Location images (optional)

VI. EMSA applications (mandatory) - identification of the maritime application for which LOCODE is active.

4 CLD management: updates

The synchronisation of the CLD with the UN/LOCODE list and the IMO GISIS Maritime Security module is currently done manually by the EMSA CLD administrator, and the UN/LOCODE list is regularly issued by UNECE (twice a year). Whenever changes affect LOCODEs that are active in the SSN application, Member States are consulted by EMSA in accordance with the procedure described in the SSN LOCODEs Guidelines that were agreed by the SSN Group. IMO GISIS Maritime Security module is regularly updated by the contracting governments through the IMO GISIS webpage. The CLD administrator verifies the IMO GISIS webpage on a monthly basis, and updates the list of port of facilities in the CLD (if necessary).

The CLD also allows national LOCODE administrators to keep the list of locations and port facilities for their countries up to date. Each time that a change is done in the CLD (i.e. add, change or deactivate), the corresponding location data is sent to the SSN operational LOCODE registry (only if the LOCODE is active for the “SSN” application in the CLD). SSN then automatically updates its operational location table with the location data received from the CLD.

Notifications provided to the central SSN system are still validated against the SSN operational LOCODE registry. Therefore, the national SSN systems should only use locations that are active for SSN application in the CLD, and consequently available in the SSN operational LOCODE registry.

The temporary LOCODEs will be only kept in the SSN operational LOCODE registry. Those temporary LOCODEs that NCAs consider to be necessary for SSN reporting purposes should be created as “SSN specific” by the MSS, or directly by the NCA in the CLD. NCAs are invited to contact UNECE and request the inclusion of additional locations in the UN/LOCODE list. The locations remain as “SSN Specific” in the CLD until the UNECE list incorporates the updates.

Should an MS acknowledge that a LOCODE has been used by mistake, the temporary LOCODE is deactivated in the SSN operational LOCODE registry. All notifications containing non-activated LOCODEs are rejected by the central SSN system.

5 Future developments

UNECE is currently working on future UN/LOCODE maintenance, publication procedures and the definition of the requirements for the new UN/LOCODE software system which is to be developed. EMSA has followed up the work of the UN/LOCODE maintenance group on the feasibility study, and asked UNECE to consider developing web services between the UN/LOCODE list and external systems.

EMSA has also contacted the IMO to determine whether the GISIS Maritime Security module can be made available to EMSA. At MSC 98 (7 – 16 June 2017), the Secretariat presented draft guidance for the electronic transfer of information into the Maritime Security module of GISIS. The draft IMO Guidance on data transfer only covers data exchange with the IMO, but EMSA is interest in obtaining automatic updates to the port facility codes. The issue is under consideration to define the possible way forward.

6 Actions required

Member States are invited to take note of the above information.